

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 740

By Wirgau

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Jack Foddrill.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as leaders by their volunteerism in highly regarded programs and public services in their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Jack Foddrill who is in his sixteenth year of volunteerism as a leader of the Interpretive Raptor Program conducted at Paris Landing State Park (PLSP) in Buchanan, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Foddrill has given his time and energies to help with the care, rehabilitation, and release of numerous raptors that have been injured or have otherwise become debilitated in and around PLSP and the federally-managed national recreation area Land Between the Lakes, which together cover a large portion of northwestern Tennessee and southwestern Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman who is extremely patient and empathetic with all injured birds in his care, he always makes sure his charges receive proper veterinary assessment, diagnosis, and treatment. Mr. Foddrill has often been known to come to the park as many as three times per day to ensure that the therapeutic regiment of every bird is followed; and

WHEREAS, wholly committed to the well-being of the birds involved in the Interpretive Raptor Program, Mr. Foddrill has a deep and abiding love for the birds. This volunteer service is a major part of his life, the raptors are his passion, and his countless acts of compassion and love for these birds of prey are without peer; and

WHEREAS, perhaps his most prominent role in volunteering at PLSP is conducting the Interpretive Raptors Program educational session each Friday night, April through October, at the PLSP Inn. His planned programs include displaying some of the raptors in residence, giving

talks on their habitat and care, and answering the questions of park visitors, young and old alike; and

WHEREAS, on an annual basis, Mr. Foddrill comes in contact with approximately 15,000 park visitors and area children as the program presentations are taken out into the communities, and presented on the grounds of PLSP; and

WHEREAS, a master at impromptu lectures as well, Mr. Foddrill is always ready to impart facts, dispel myths, and feed the overall curiosity and interests of those who often happen upon him at the Bird Barn, where he may be feeding, doctoring, caring for, or simply communing with the resident birds; and

WHEREAS, a genuine naturalist, conservationist, and volunteer extraordinaire, Jack Foddrill personifies the image of a true Tennessean who loves the land, cares deeply for the magnificent raptors that are indigenous to our State, and will give his all to preserve, enrich, and magnify the beauty of the land and the sheer wonders of Tennessee's magnificent birds of prey; and

WHEREAS, Jack Foddrill has served with acumen and alacrity as a tireless volunteer to aid in the rehabilitation of injured birds of prey, and he fervently acts to educate the public about Tennessee's natural resources and mankind's duty to protect and preserve the God-given natural gifts so richly bestowed on our State and our nation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Mr. Jack Foddrill for his passionate concern for the well-being of Tennessee's indigenous birds of prey and for his years of volunteerism, recognizing him as a vital part of the Interpretive Raptors Program at Paris Landing State Park. We extend our deepest appreciation to Mr. Foddrill and give him our best wishes for success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.